

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
Governor

## THOMAS BUSCHATZKE Director

## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of WATER RESOURCES

1110 West Washington Street, Suite 310 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 602.771.8500 azwater.gov

August 21, 2020

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

## PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SANTA CRUZ ACTIVE MANAGEMENT AREA FOR THE FOURTH MANAGEMENT PERIOD, 2010 TO 2020

Thomas Buschatzke, Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (Department), acting pursuant to sections 45-567 through 45-567.02 and 45-570 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, hereby gives notice of a public hearing on the proposed management plan for the Santa Cruz Active Management Area for the fourth management period, 2010 to 2020 (Proposed Plan). The Santa Cruz Active Management Area (SCAMA) covers 716 square miles in the immediate vicinity of the United States/Mexico border in the Upper Santa Cruz River Basin. It is principally concentrated around a 45-mile reach of the Santa Cruz River from the international border to the Continental gaging station, a few miles north of the Santa Cruz/Pima County line.

The Proposed Plan contains mandatory conservation requirements and monitoring and reporting requirements for persons withdrawing, distributing or receiving water, other than stored water, withdrawn from a well within the SCAMA. These requirements, which are set forth in the Agricultural, Municipal and Industrial chapters of the Proposed Plan, are designed to achieve reductions in withdrawals of groundwater within the AMA. The Proposed Plan also includes a Water Management Assistance Program, an introductory chapter, and chapters discussing hydrology, water demand and supply, water quality, underground water storage, savings and replenishment, water management assistance, plan implementation, and water management strategy.

The public hearing will be held via webinar and at the following location on September 22, 2020 at 1:00 pm:

<u>Via Webinar (strongly preferred):</u> https://bit.ly/SantaCruz4MPHearing In Person, with RSVP:
Tubac Presidio State Historic Park
1885 Territorial Schoolhouse
One Burruel Street
Tubac, AZ 85646

Any person may appear at the hearing, either via webinar, in person, or by representative, and submit oral or written comments on the Proposed Plan. Due to safety considerations during the COVID-19 crisis and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for large events and mass gatherings, the Department strongly recommends that individuals participate in this hearing via written comments or via webinar. Webinar participants will be given the opportunity to speak in a similar manner to those who attend in person. The Department requests that those who plan to attend in person RSVP by contacting Sharon Scantlebury at <a href="mailto:scantlebury@azwater.gov">sscantlebury@azwater.gov</a> or 602-771-8472, so accommodations can be made to properly comply with social distancing guidance from the CDC, as well as comply with the venue's own safety requirements. Persons attending in person will be required to wear a face covering. Persons presenting comments at the hearing may be subject to a time limit to ensure all who wish to speak receive an opportunity to do so. Additional hearing details can be found at <a href="https://new.azwater.gov/ama/management-plans">https://new.azwater.gov/ama/management-plans</a>.

Written comments not submitted at the hearing described above may be submitted as follows:

By mail postmarked no later than September 22, 2020, or via email or fax by 5:00 pm on September 22, 2020:

Sharon Scantlebury
Docket Supervisor
Arizona Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 36020
Phoenix, AZ 85006-6020
602-771-8472 (p)
602-771-8686 (f)
sscantlebury@azwater.gov

Information regarding this notice, including a map of the SCAMA and a copy of the Proposed Plan, is available online at <a href="https://new.azwater.gov/ama/management-plans">https://new.azwater.gov/ama/management-plans</a>. Copies of the Proposed Plan may be obtained by contacting Sharon Scantlebury.

If, because of a disability, you need a reasonable accommodation to participate equally in this hearing, please contact Sharon Scantlebury with the Arizona Department of Water Resources at (602) 771-8472 or sscantlebury@azwater.gov. Please make requests as soon as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.